



TIC Connect Group Discussion Guide

30 June - 6 July 2019 | Genesis 25:19-32:31

The Message. God is sovereign. He works through all things - including our failures - to achieve His good will. Knowing that He is sovereign and His will is good, we should learn to believe in and rest on Him.

Context. “Jacob knew that the birthright was valuable and he wanted it. Passages like Deuteronomy 21:17 and 1 Chronicles 5:1-2 tell us the birthright involved both a material and a spiritual dynamic. The son of the birthright received a double portion of the inheritance, and he also became the head of the family and the spiritual leader upon the passing of the father. In the case of this family the birthright determined who would inherit the covenant God made with Abraham, the covenant of a land, a nation, and the Messiah” (Guzik).

Discussion Questions

1. What are God’s decrees?

25:23 : _____

28:13-15 : _____

In light of God’s decrees, answer the following questions.

2. Observe Esau.

a. What are Esau’s issues?

25:29-34: _____

26:34-35: _____

b. Why does he act this way?

c. What are the consequences?

27:36,41: _____

28:8-9: _____

3. Observe Jacob.

a. What are Jacob’s issues?

25:29-34: _____

27:14-24: _____

b. Why does he act this way?

c. What is the consequence?

27:42-45: _____

4. Observe Isaac & Rebekah.

a. What is Isaac’s issue?

27:1-4: _____

5. Observe Leah & Rachel.

a. What are Leah’s issues?

29:34; 30:20: _____

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| b. Why does he act this way? | 30:9-12: _____ |
| c. What are Rebekah's issues? | 30:14-21: _____ |
| 27:8-10: _____ | b. What are Rachel's issues? |
| 27:46-28:5: _____ | 30:1-2: _____ |
| d. Why does she act this way? | 30:3-6: _____ |
| e. What is the consequence? | c. Why do they act this way? |
| 27:41-45: _____ | |

6. Despite all of these, how does God's decree on question 1 come to place?

Application

ECF.

7. What is the birthright of a Christian (Eph. 1:3-14)? How can we despise it? Why?
8. How do we resist God's will? Why do we do that?

God-Centeredness.

9. What does God's sovereignty mean to us?
10. How can we rest or find our peace on God's sovereignty without being passive?

Insight

- "The mandrake is a root, called 'love-apples' in Hebrew. They were thought (and still are among some peoples) to increase fertility in women. Because Leah had the mandrakes, she knew Jacob would have relations with her, believing there was a greater likelihood she would become pregnant. We don't know if the effect of the mandrakes was something biological, or if it functioned more as a placebo. ... Whatever strange agencies God may allow to be used (such as mandrakes), the real factor is His sovereign will (God listened to Leah)" (Guzik).
- Although Joseph, the son of Rachel, was prominent in the latter chapters as he became the prince of Egypt and saved the family, Jesus Christ came from the tribe of Judah – which means the birthright was passed to Judah, the son of Leah (Luke 3:23-38).

Resources

Guzik, David. *Genesis*. Enduring Word Commentary. Enduring Word Media, 2012.